



Glenda Ritz, NBCT

Indiana Superintendent of Public Instruction

2015-2016 Indiana School Improvement Plan

The Indiana Department of Education (IDOE) is pleased to offer a new comprehensive school improvement plan solution. This solution utilizes a state-of-the-art system which allows for multiple required plans (PL221, Title I Schoolwide, and Student Achievement Plan) to be combined into one plan to reduce redundancy, provide clarity, and streamline support. The solution provides schools with an online platform to track progress against goals, seamlessly manage documents, and enhance their school improvement efforts.

IDOE has partnered with AdvancED to utilize the Adaptive System of School Improvement Tools (ASSIST) for the Indiana School Improvement Plan (INSIP). ASSIST is designed to broaden and sharpen thinking about continuous school improvement and performance. The many different requirements, duties, and functions of effective school leadership and compliance are brought together into a single, seamless tool that facilitates progressive thinking and dialogue about school improvement. AdvancED ASSIST provides enhanced utility, increased operational efficiency, performance analytics, and improved reporting/research capacity to each school, district, and the Indiana Department of Education.

Indiana is moving to this new online template for Indiana School Improvement Plan (INSIP) submission because it collects, organizes, and analyzes qualitative and quantitative information about school improvement and performance. The online electronic system provides one place for schools to develop improvement plans, track progress against goals and objectives and seamlessly manage documents, processes and work flows. ASSIST provides Indiana with the tools for continuous school improvement planning, comprehensive needs assessments, individualized support, and access to school improvement data.

The IDOE has piloted ASSIST with many districts for two years and has worked out many of the initial implementation issues. The response has been very positive and then during the 2015 General Assembly, monies were afforded to the department through the budget to support this resource free of charge to all schools.

Please see the Frequently Asked Questions below for additional information on implementation, timelines, and expectations.

1. What schools must submit the INSIP via ASSIST?

All public schools, including traditional and charter, are required to complete the INSIP (IC 20-31-1-1; IC 20-24.2-4-4) and submit 511 IAC 6.2-3-5(a) to the IDOE. The Department template for submission will be the new ASSIST template.

2. When will the school receive access into ASSIST?

Schools and districts will receive access information in mid to late September after the district has received training. Currently, all school and district data is being uploaded. IDOE will offer training through workshops, online webinars, and downloadable resources. Regional in-person workshops will occur during **September and October 2015**. School corporations will be able to send two district representatives to a train-the-trainer workshop. It is expected that these selected trainers then train the individuals at the local level. Online webinars and resources will also be made available. More information regarding training will be forthcoming in the next few weeks.



3. Does this require software to be installed on school computers by district IT staff?

No. ASSIST is a web-based application and can be accessed by authorized building users from any device anywhere an Internet connection is available, each user will be issued an individual user ID and password

4. When is the Indiana School Improvement Plan due for all schools?

The INSIP is due no later than [March 1](#), 2016. The school improvement plan remains as a three year plan as state required.

5. If the school has already submitted a 2015-2016 school improvement plan, does it need to resubmit?

Yes. Although the school has already submitted, it is important that the submission is completed through ASSIST. The school has up to [March 1](#), 2016 to resubmit.

6. Does this new requirement mean that a school must start over with its current plan?

No. The INSIP includes all current required components of PL221, Title I schoolwide, and the Focus/Priority School Student Achievement Plan. If a school has a recent or current school improvement plan that meets current requirements, the school may copy and paste the components into the new online template. The template is also designed to be a “living” document and may be adjusted throughout the year as necessary, or as new ideas come forth from the school improvement planning team or as data is ready to be updated.

IDOE has customized the INSIP so that each individual school’s requirements are reflected. For example, a Title I Priority school will have additional components that allow the school to meet the requirements of the Title I schoolwide plan and the Student Achievement Plan. A non-Title I A school would only need to complete the requirements for the PL221 plan.

7. Will this new format require more time?

For the first year, it is expected that schools will take longer to get all of the information into ASSIST. Once the information has been entered, it is retained for all subsequent years, allowing for easy updates and year to year comparisons. This will streamline and expedite the process for updates and changes.

8. How has this application been tested?

IDOE and AdvancED have piloted ASSIST with 125 volunteer Indiana schools. Enhancements to the application have been made based on feedback from these schools’ staff. Because the system is customizable, continued feedback from stakeholders will be frequently requested and used to make further enhancements.



9. Is it required to be accredited through AdvancED to use ASSIST?

No. Accreditation through AdvancED is a local decision. ASSIST is available to all schools whether they are accredited by AdvancED or not.

10. Who do I call for help?

Support will be offered through AdvancED, IDOE Office of Accreditation, and IDOE's Office of Early Learning and Intervention, and Office of Outreach.